



BVAC News

December

2022



Doddie Weir



We start this last edition of our anniversary year by noting the sad news which has been in the headlines in the last few days of the passing of Doddie Weir. He was not only a great Borderer and rugby player, but since his diagnosis of Motor Neurone Disease six years ago, an inspirational fund raiser for research into that disease and support for its sufferers. We recall his appearance at our

2019 BVAC Classic when despite his already advancing condition, he insisted on coming along in person to present the keys of the Mini we raffled in aid of the My Name's Doddie Foundation and accept the cheque for the £13,000 we raised. He will be sorely missed.



BVAC Classic at Thirlestane 2023

Unfortunately, Sir Jackie Stewart has informed us that he will not be able to support the show at Thirlestane in June 2023. This has meant that some of the major sponsors have withdrawn. The committee is now liaising with Thirlestane Castle Events to see what arrangements can be put in place to hold the BVAC Classic on 17/18 June. More information will follow as soon as the position becomes clearer.

Membership Renewals

Just a quick reminder that membership renewals are now due, unless you joined at or since the Thirlestane show in which case your initial membership runs to October 2023. You can download the form by clicking [here](#).

Forthcoming Events

This Saturday (3rd) sees the return of a once-regular social event that has been missing from our calendar for the last three years – the annual BVAC Christmas Dinner at the Kingsknowes Hotel, Galashiels. Unfortunately, if you haven't already booked you've missed the boat, but for those who have I'm sure an entertaining evening awaits.

The other event in our December calendar is the regular monthly breakfast meet at the Milestone Garden Centre, Newtown St Boswells. This month's date is the 11th, and as usual there's no need to book, just turn up between 10 and 12 to enjoy good chat and anything from a coffee to a full breakfast in the Greenhouse Café. Don't worry if you've laid up your classic for the winter, nobody will complain if you turn up in a modern!

Chris Biggs and his sub-committee are putting their heads together to work out the programme for next year, taking into account the wealth of suggestions from you all. I'm sure the Milestone meets will continue on the second Sunday of every month, but as for the rest – more details next month.

November's Meetings

The club got together twice during November, the first being at Milestone on the 9th. There was a great turnout with a mix of regulars and some new faces. Undoubted centre of attention was new member Adrian Kendal's beautiful Wolseley 25. Adrian has a variety of other classics in his garage, so hopefully we will see some of them at future events. Thanks to John Littlewood for providing much better photographs than I captured.





Later in the month there was a good turnout at Earlston Church Hall for an evening of motoring films. There was quite a variety from a recreation of the first ever cross-country journey in a petrol driven car (it was in 1888 and the driver was Bertha Benz, wife of the inventor) to some very modern coachbuilding showing



the conversion of a Jaguar XF into a hearse – now I call that ending in style! Midway through the evening we had a unique record of the very Opel Kapitän that Fred Magill



has spent years restoring, made when it lived in India some forty or so years ago. It showed a very eventful journey from Calcutta to Gangtok in Sikkim, a round trip of nearly 900 miles. It's remarkable to have such an amazing record of your classic's past life, particularly when it's this colourful.

As Others See Us



Sometime when you've a quarter of an hour or so to spare, have a look at this – it's an American YouTuber's take on "The Weirdest Little Car I've Ever Driven" – yes, that's right, an Austin A30! I wonder how many of these got exported to the US. Click [here](#) to watch the movie.

They Do It in Style in the North

The Caithness and Sutherland Vintage and Classic Vehicle Club decided to hold a run in honour of a long serving committee member who'd passed away which was a nice touch, but I think it was remarkable to gather thirty five cars from such a sparsely populated area to take part in a 75 mile run at the end of October. Not only did they have a great day out, but they managed to get an impressive article in the Northern Times recording the event. You can see the online edition [here](#).

[Picture 'DGS' via Northern Times]



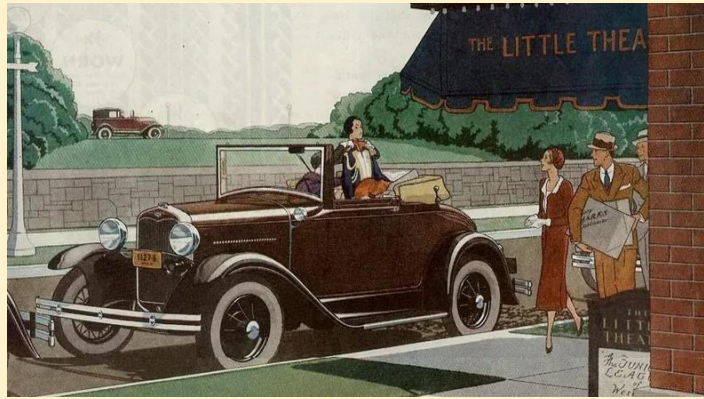
Fred's Findings

As he does most months, Fred Magill has picked up some interesting snippets from the web as well as some classic advertising material and a plug for a new book 'Colours of London: A History' all of which I'm happy to pass on.

This Edwardian Delaunay-Belleville is on the market, beautiful to look at if not exactly practical everyday transport – details [here](#).



Read about a company that restores period car radios [here](#) or hear about how the Model A Ford was the genesis of the restoration hobby in the US by clicking [here](#), or you could just look at the pictures...



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The Motor

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A true picture Author Peter Ackroyd paints a vivid picture of the capital in *Colours of London: A History*. Illustrated with colourised photographs, such as this one of Shaftesbury Avenue in the 1950s, the book examines the city's history and its identity.

Xclusively Jaguar

Letitia Mace has produced another fine online magazine for all you Jaguar fans –



As we come to the end of another year

The magazine subscriptions for the limited edition of 35 signed and numbered copies for each issue of Xclusively Jaguar magazine is now fully subscribed and we have a number of subscribers who receive our unsigned and un-numbered version while waiting for a subscription to one of the sought after signed and numbered copies to become available!

You'll notice that we feature an X300 servicing guide this month, not that we expect anyone to be servicing their X300 in the middle of winter or over Christmas (although, it's a good excuse to get away from the relatives if you have a heated garage!) – we thought it would make some good over-winter reading, giving X300 owners time to contemplate the task and obtain the necessary supplies in time for Spring!

And we have a few more ideas for Christmas gifts from a revised design crank position sensor to a Daimler Double Six!

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Xclusively Jaguar!

You will find the latest issue of Xclusively Jaguar magazine (along with all back issues) at www.Xclusively-Jaguar.co.uk

Contact Letitia Mace via 07836 68 78 98 or Letitia@exclusively-jaguar.co.uk for more information

Until next month, Happy Motoring!



And Finally...

I leave you with this cartoon contributed by Neil Renilson. I only hope for the sake of marital harmony that a better resolution was found if you ever found yourself on either side of this situation!



That's all for this year, try not to get stuck in the snow coming home from the Christmas shopping.

Best wishes for Christmas and many miles of happy motoring in 2023,

David

